

BREMERTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
Minutes of March 22, 2022 **(REVISED)**
Virtual Meeting

Commissioner's Present: Ben Burnette, Pat Watson, Dave Hedger, Maggie Williams and Paul Dutky

Staff Present: Jeff Elevado, Director of Parks and Recreation

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** at 5:32 p.m. by Chair Burnette
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes from the February 22nd meeting. Watson/Hedger (M/S/U)
- III. **Public Comment:** N/A
- IV. **Business Items:**

1. Covid-19 Facility and Program Status

Director Elevado shared that the Governor lifted the state's indoor masking rule and that the Department has followed suit for programs and facilities, including the Senior Center where masks are recommended but not required. Staff are moving forward with the spring softball leagues and community groups are returning to use facilities for meetings and activities, including the senior computing group, the Pee Wee Association, and wood carvers among others. Vaccinated staff are allowed to be in common areas without masks and staff are still doing daily temperature scanning and will continue to follow any updated recommendations. **Chair Burnette** asked about the gym's pickleball schedule and **Director Elevado** shared that it's offered five days a week at various times and continues to be very popular. **Commissioner Williams** asked if the Commission would be meeting in person again and **Director Elevado** said he is waiting for direction from Mayor and City Council who are still meeting virtually. Meeting virtually has been more convenient for the public to attend so future meetings could be a hybrid of in-person meeting while still providing access for the public to attend virtually.

2. YMCA Concession and Management Agreement

Director Elevado shared that the city built the Glenn Jarstad Aquatic Center in 1978-9 which operated on its own until 1985 when the Bremerton Family YMCA moved from downtown to city-owned land adjacent to the pool. During the 2009 recession the city was looking at ways to reduce budget and the administration at that time felt that transferring management of the pool to the YMCA could be a way to do that. At that time the city was getting about \$65,000 in a concession fee from the YMCA which gave Y members pool access. Once the YMCA took over management of the city pool through a 10-year contract they assumed all maintenance and operation of the pool and in turn the City waived the concession fee and the city subsidized the YMCA for operation of the pool. This agreement allowed Bremerton residents access to the city pool four times/year. In early 2020 the City started negotiations with the YMCA to extend this contract and requested more public access. Then Covid hit and the YMCA closed for a period. Negotiations resumed in 2021 and the pool roof began leaking. Part of the concession agreement provides an opportunity for the YMCA to opt out of the agreement due to an extraordinary expense, which they chose to do due to the pool roof replacement which was roughly quoted at

400k. During further negotiations the YMCA has shared their desire to move to a new location. The City is developing RFQ's (request for qualifications) to have a consultant(s) evaluate the condition of the roof and do a feasibility study to determine whether the city should take on operation of the pool again. In the meantime, an amendment to the contract, if approved, will increase public access to 12 times/year. **Commissioner Williams** asked why the YMCA is planning to find a new location. **Director Elevado** shared that they are concerned about the longevity of their 40-year-old building (compared to newer facilities in Silverdale, Gig Harbor) and that the city also must evaluate how much money to put into the pool which is even older.

V. **Staff Reports & Updates:**

1) **Kitsap Lake Park Project Update**

Director Elevado shared that bid documents are complete, however staff are awaiting Army Corps of Engineers Permit (which was applied for in December 2020) before going out to bid. The most favorable time to go out to bid is early in the year when contractors set their schedule for the year so the longer it takes for the permit to be issued the more expensive the project is going to be.

2) **Pendergast Soccer Field Project**

Director Elevado shared that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was advertised to select a consultant to perform the surveying/engineering for converting the dirt soccer fields into artificial turf and locating a new restroom and accessible pathways. This design phase is being funded by a 49k Department of Commerce grant and additional grants (that match each other) are being explored for construction.

3) **Haddon Park Improvement Project**

Director Elevado shared that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was advertised to select a consultant to perform the topographic survey, civil, structural, and geotechnical engineering services for the Haddon Park Renovation project. This project is being funded by a 850k Recreation & Conservation grant and a 132k Community Development Block grant.

4) **Kiwanis Park Playground Accessibility Project**

Director Elevado recapped that staff are working with playground vendors to develop concepts to enhance accessibility of playground funded by 100k Kiwanis Club donation. Due to expense of playground unitary safety surfacing (like Evergreen's playground) staff applied for a 162k Dept. of Commerce grant to supplement the Kiwanis Club donation and it was announced last week that this grant application was successful.

VI. **Commissioner's Comments:**

Commissioner Hedger shared there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Manette Park for the first time in two years and mentioned that the pickleball players continue come early and stay late so no one else can use the sports court.

Commissioner Watson said southern restroom at Evergreen Rotary Park has been closed and asked if it is only open certain hours. **Director Elevado** shared that it was being vandalized on a daily basis so it was locked but it will be open again soon for special events and once additional seasonal staff are hired it can be managed/maintained more frequently.

VII. **Adjournment: Chair Burnette** adjourned meeting at 6:22 pm.